

HOW-NE-CON

NEWSLETTER VOL. 7



CITIZEN BAND POTAWATOMI INDIANS

ROUTE 5, BOX 151 — SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801

MARCH 1975

CLAIMS—PER CAPITA PAYMENT The Tribal Office has been receiving many inquiries on the pending claim and at a time when money is so scarce we are well aware how very much our people are needing their share of the monies due them. As most of you know the Potawatomi Nation as it existed in the late 1700's and early 1800's was awarded a little over four million dollars in April of 1973 for Indian Claims Commission docket nos. 217, 15-K, and 29-J. Funds to cover these awards were appropriated by Congress during the early part of January, 1974. On December 27, 1974, Congress appropriated an additional two million to cover judgements awarded under docket nos. 15M, 29K and 146. These awards were for lands ceded by the Treaty of 1821. The Potawatomi Nation (Citizen Band, Prairie Band, Hanniville Band, and several small bands in the north) currently has a little over six million to be divided among present day tribes and bands. Up until recently Indian Tribes had to seek special distribution legislation each time they won an award from the Indian Claims Commission. On October 19, 1973, Public Law 93-134 was enacted. This law provides for the following steps in acquiring authorization of distribution of claim awards. 1. Research by the Washington office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to determine an equitable division for the award between present day tribes or groups. 2. Preliminary sessions or meetings among the above named bands to develop a use or distribution proposal. 3. After preliminary meeting and Hearing of Record is called to receive testimony from tribal members on the plan. 4. Testimony, plan and all other documents are submitted by the Secretary of the Interior to the Chairman of the Senate and House Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs. 5. Each Congressional Committee has at least 60 days to either approve or disapprove a plan. 6. The roll is up-dated as of the approval date and pay voucher prepared. The steps listed above are what we have to go through to distribute the judgements. We are still waiting to receive the research to see what percentage share the Citizen Potawatomi tribe will receive. The Business Committee has written the U. S. Congressman for the Shawnee area to see if he can get the Washington Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to complete the research as required as required by Public Law 93-134. We have yet to receive the research. It might help if you wrote your particular Congressman. Please do not write the tribal office concerning the claims. We will publish information in this newsletter as the awards progress and answering individual inquiries is very time consuming and costly. Keep in mind the steps listed above and you will know what remains to be done before any payment can be made.

JUNE COUNCIL MEETING AND POW WOW Plan now to attend the annual June Council Meeting and two day Pow Wow. Saturday, June 28, 1975 is the date and it will begin with the Bicentennial Flag Presentation at 10:00 a.m. on the Potawatomi Grounds, south of Shawnee. The Council Meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will be held at St. Gregory's College, Commons Building. The Council Meeting should be over around 3:00 p.m. and we will all return to the Potawatomi grounds for Dinner which should begin around 5:00 in the evening. Be sure and bring plates and eating utensils and if you plan to camp out over nite, bring your provisions for camping. There will be plenty of space for those who want to camp out the nite of the 28th. Any additional food you would like to bring to spread for the dinner will be appreciated. The Pow Wow will follow the dinner and will be over????? Beef will be rationed to campers Sunday morning around 8:00 and each family will cook their own dinner Sunday. Mark you calender now and plan on being with your Potawatomi brothers on June 28 & 29.

ARCHERY SHOOT The Pow Wow Club will sponsor an archery shoot to be held the day of the Pow Wow. There will be trophies given up to 3rd place in all classes. There will be classes to accommodate the beginners up to the old pros. Make plans to bring your own equipment and join the fun. For further information contact Leon Bruno, A/C 405 997-5655, Route 1, Tecumseh, Oklahoma, 74873.

ARTS & CRAFTS Ed Bourbonnais, Arts & Crafts Instructor informed us that the Arts & Crafts Class would have plenty of Indian Jewelry and crafts on sale at the annual Pow Wow, June 28. Now is a good time to enroll if you are interested in learning beadwork and other various Indian crafts. The classes are held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights from 6:00 til 10:00 p.m. in the Potawatomi Community House located just north of Mission Hill Hospital. There is no charge for the classes and it is open to all Indians. The only cost is the cost of the beads or necesary supplies you would use and these are sold at wholesale prices. For further information you may contact the Tribal Office, 273-3125 or call Ed Bourbonnais, 273-3471. Plan on attending a class this week.

QUESTIONNAIRE AND SURVEY We as Potawatomi Indian people are on the threshold of a new day of Indian opportunity. In order to be ready for the challenges and competition which come with opportunity, we must be as knowledgeable about ourselves—our resources and needs—as possible. Can't you please help by letting us know about you—your ideas, needs, and resources. Complete the forms and return to the Tribal Office, Route 5, Box 151, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801.

RABIES CLINICS The Potawatomi CHRs have 3 rabies clinics scheduled for the vaccination of your pets on the following dates; April 10, at Acme School, May 22 at Wannett School, and June 27 at the Sacred Heart Community Building.

ARCH FOR RELATIVES Rick Castaneda, 2300 S. Longwood Ave, Los Angeles, California 90016, will be traveling through Oklahoma this summer and would like to contact some of his relatives. If you are related to any of the following people, please write to Rick at the above address or call a/c 213-734-7300. Abraham Burnett, Joseph Burnett, Anthony Burnett, Clara Labell Burnett, Emma James Burnett, Catherine Burnett, or Lee Burnett. Also, Jim or Ma-wa-Tosie Bonestar, John Schincis, Frank Schincis, George Schincis, or Joseph Schincis. Good luck Rick!

NEW TRIBAL EMPLOYEE We now have a new receptionist here in the tribal office. Her name is Jan Jones, and she is Potawatomi! Jan's position is funded through the CETA Program. Glad to have you on board Jan!!!

POW WOW CLUB The Potawatomi Tribal Pow Wow Club is going great guns and from the reports made at the last meeting the coming June Pow Wow is going to be an even greater success than last year. The Pow Wow Club was organized and had their first meeting January 3, 1975 with 10 Charter Members. Since that time the club has grown and now consists of Indians representing several tribes. If you live near Shawnee and would like to join the club you would be most welcome. A contest is now under way to recruit new members and the team bringing in the most new members gets to be feed by the opposing side. Team Captains are Leroy Neddeau and Buck Tasier. The monthly meetings are held every third Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Potawatomi Community House. A Pot Luck Dinner precedes each meeting and all you need to bring is a pot of something good to eat and your plate and fork. I can guarantee you will have a good time. The officers are; Buck Tasier, Chairman, Leroy Neddeau, Vice Chairman, Anita Little Hill, Secretary and Mildred Peltier, Treasurer. Thanks a million to all the good people who have donated or have been instrumental in donations to the club. Every donation is greatly appreciated. The latest donation was a 700 lb. steer from St. Gregory's Abbey, represented by Father Vincent Traynor, who is also a Charter member of the club. Be sure and try and attend one of the meetings soon and if additional information is needed you may call the Tribal Office.

TRIBAL PROJECTS

POTAWATOMI STONE WORKS - "Native American Stone" During the first month of this year, the Tribe initiated a significant first. We started a 100% tribally owned business to manufacture ornamental stone. This beautiful, light weight stone is used as a veneer for fireplaces, chimneys, inside and outside walls, etc. Raymond Peltier superintends the plant which employs four persons. In charge of sales is Woody McClain, President, H.M.W. Sales, Inc. Delivery man is Tony Hollingsworth. All are Potawatomes.

BICENTENNIAL PROJECT The Tribe has received a \$12,000. Bicentennial grant from the BIA for taping the Potawatomi language; publishing a newsletter; converting to print and partial translation of a microfilmed Potawatomi-English dictionary, a Potawatomi-French workbook, and a Potawatomi prayer book. This microfilm was given to Priscilla Sherard by Father Augustas C. Wand, J.C., former archivist at St. Marys College, St. Marys, Kansas before his death in November, 1974. This Bicentennial effort will also include publication of Priscilla's People of the Place of the Fire, a collection of Potawatomi history, legends, and genealogy and publication of her Indian cookbook. We will let you know when these projects are complete.

CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER/COUNCIL HOUSE The cultural resources described above will be kept together in our Cultural Heritage Center/Council House to be located on tribal land south of Shawnee, Oklahoma. Of course, we will share them with you when they come in. Yes! Our Cultural Heritage Center/Council House is a reality. A \$300,000. Economic Development Administration grant has been approved for this building and for utility extensions to the Tribe's industrial projects, so construction should begin by early summer. This building will be approximately trimmed in redwood to symbolize that we are people of the fire. Best of all, the council room located on the upper level of this two-leveled structure will be large enough for our annual Council meetings.

MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER FOR OLDER ADULTS The Tribe is presently seeking a grant for establishing a Potawatomi Multi-Purpose Center for Older Adults to be located in the vacated St. Benedict's School building, Shawnee, Oklahoma. We are working with the Special Unit on Aging, Department of Institutions, Social, and Rehabilitation Services and have applied for \$22,000. each year for a three-year period. This Multi-Purpose Center, run with assistance from our Community Health Representatives, would provide recreation, volunteer opportunities, information, referral, adult education, and companionship services for our older adults. We are hopeful about this grant.

HOME REHABILITATION FOR OUR AGED We have also applied for a \$100,000. grant from the Campaign for Human Development. If we are successful these funds will be used to rehabilitate homes of our rural-aged who do not qualify for Urban Renewal or BIA home improvement assistance. Cross your fingers about this one!

HEALTH MAINTENANCE PROGRAM The Tribe is also seeking funding from Indian Health Service in order to provide an environmental health maintenance program for Potawatomi Indian persons living in rural parts of the Shawnee Indian Health Service area. This health-maintenance service would include help with trash and garbage disposal; help with water, sewage, and heating problems; and minor home repair. More about this program later when and if it is funded.